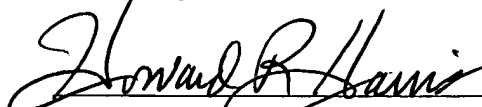


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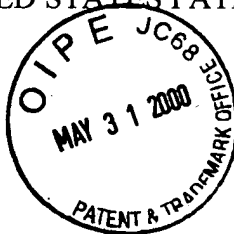
PATENT
Docket No. 251502006900
Client Reference N.72646F

CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on May 31, 2000.


Howard R. Harris

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In the application of:

Hendrik L. BIJL et al.

Serial No.: 08/821,025

Filing Date: March 19, 1997

For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION
OF A GRANULAR MICROBIAL
BIOMASS AND ISOLATION OF A
COMPOUND THEREFROM

Examiner: Dr. Irene Marx

Group Art Unit: 1651

#20
Ref-Ext. (3ma)
6/9/00

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant petitions the Assistant Commissioner for Patents under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated December 3, 1999. This extension will extend the time the response is due from March 3, 2000 to June 3, 2000.

A three-month extension is requested; the extension fee is \$870.00; and a check in the amount of \$870.00 is attached.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this petition, or to credit any overpayment to

06/01/2000 SLUAN61 00000096 08821025

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870.00 OP

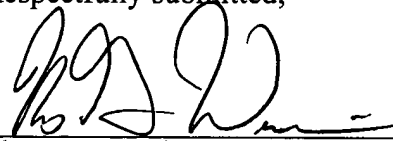
dc-210137

Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 251502006900. A duplicate copy of this petition is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 31, 2000

By:



Thomas G. Wiseman
Registration No. 35,046

Morrison & Foerster LLP
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006-1888
Telephone: (202) 887-1678
Facsimile: (202) 887-0763

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